

JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION  
OF THE  
STATE OF MONTANA

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Date: July 25, 2011

To: All media organizations

From: Andrew P. Suenram, Judicial Nomination Commission secretary  
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Subject: Applicants for Workers' Compensation Judgeship

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Two Montana lawyers are seeking the vacant seat on the Workers' Compensation Judgeship created by the expiring term of Judge James Shea which becomes effective September 7, 2011. The two lawyers are the following:

1. Deborah F. Butler - Jefferson City
2. James J. Shea - Helena

The application of each lawyer can be reviewed on the Judicial Nomination Commission website, [http://courts.mt.gov/supreme/boards/jud\\_nomination/default.mcp](http://courts.mt.gov/supreme/boards/jud_nomination/default.mcp).

The Judicial Nomination Commission will screen the applicants and submit the nominees to Governor Schweitzer. The Governor will appoint one applicant to the Court. After appointment by the Governor, the new judge will serve for a six-year term.

Public comment is an extremely important part of the appointment process. The Judicial Nomination Commission welcomes public comment, either in writing or via telephone. Written comments become part of an applicant's file, and will be forwarded to Governor Schweitzer as part of the nomination process. Public comment will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on August 23, 2011. Please contact JNC Secretary, Andy Suenram at [asuenram@swmtlaw.com](mailto:asuenram@swmtlaw.com), (406)683-2391, P.O. Box 1366, Dillon, MT 59725, or any of the individual commissioners. Judicial Nomination Commission members are District Judge Richard Simonton of Glendive; Shirley Ball of Nashua; Mona Charles of Kalispell; Monica Paoli of Missoula; Martha Sheehy of Billings; Andy Suenram of Dillon; and Paul Tuss of Havre.